

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 24, 2004 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-9 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification. Claims 10 and 12 have been amended. No new subject matter has been added. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Claims 1-10 and 12 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-9 have been allowed. The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 12, but indicated that claims 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification.

The subject matter of objected-to claim 11 has been incorporated into base claim 10. Claim 11 has been cancelled and claim 12 has been amended to depend upon claim 10. Applicants respectfully submit each of the claims, claims 1-9, 10 and 12, is now in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Runquist et al. (U.S. Patent 6,357,537). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but, as discussed above, have amended claims 10 and 12, and cancelled claim 11 to advance this application to allowance.

SUMMARY

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 1-10 and 12) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.



Date: July 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen A. Fitzsimmons". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Karen A. Fitzsimmons
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KAF:cjm